



September 14, 2007

Surface Transportation Board 395 E Street, SW Washington, D.C 20423-0001

Mr. Mack H. Shumate, Jr 101 North Wacker Drive, Room 1920 Chicago, II. 60606

Mr Louis E Gitomer 600 Baltimore Ave, Ste. 301 Towson, MD 21204

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Re STB Docket No AB33 (Sub No 256X) and AB585 (Sub No 2X)

It has just come to the attention of the City of Dallas that Union Pacific Railroad (UP) and Dallas Garland & Northeastern Railroad Company (DGNO) have jointly filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 UP seeks to abandon and DGNO seeks to discontinue service over the Trinity Industrial Lead, between milepost 0.0 near Terminal Junction and milepost 4.1 near Mockingbird Lane, a distance of 4.1 miles in the City of Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

The City of Dallas has not been previously contacted by any parties on this matter. Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10905 and 49 CFR 1152.28, the City of Dallas wishes to hereby register its interest in the subject 4.1 mile long tract of property (which we understand to vary in width from 41.5 feet to 100 feet) for one or more of the following public purposes pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 1247 and 49 CFR 1152.29

- 1) A rails-to-trails corridor
- 2) Possible conversion of the property and the existing track to a passenger line as part of a new modern street car system currently being studied in Dallas.
- Portions thereof may be needed for possible R.O.W for a new road system being constructed as part of the City's Trinity River Corridor Project (for the main portion of the Woodall Rodgers extension across the new Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge and/or for approach ramps for that road as well as for the proposed I rinity Parkway).

Part of Public Record

- 4) Portions of the ROW may be needed for the City in order to facilitate construction of a new "Baker Pumping Station" as part of the City's upgraded internal drainage system
- 5) Portions of the ROW may be needed to expand and/or reconfigure portions of the existing internal drainage sump system which runs intermittently along the entire length of the east levee of the l'rinity River

The City of Dallas is currently involved in a massive Trinity River Corridor Project involving improved flood protection, traffic congestion relief, creation of an environmental corridor (made up of lakes, parks, trails, and nature preserves), and significant economic development upgrade potential. This 4.1 mile R O W which runs along the toe of the east levee could be used for several important public purposes along the east levee

The City hereby submits its check for the \$200 00 filing fee for a <u>trail use request</u>, in addition to indicating its strong interest in the property for one or more of the above mentioned public uses. The City of Dallas, pursuant to 49 U S C 10905 requests that the Board prohibit disposal of the line for 180 days and require that the line be offered for sale for public purposes. The City of Dallas also requests an oral hearing on the application for abandonment pursuant to 49 CFR 1152 25 (d)(6)(1)

Statement of Willingness To Assume Financial Responsibility

In order to establish interim trail use and rail banking under 16 U.S.C 1247(d) and 49CFR 1152.29, the City of Dallas is willing to assume full responsibility for management of, for any legal liability arising out of the transfer or use of (unless the user is immune from liability, in which case it need only indemnify the railroad against any potential liability), and for the payment of any and all taxes that may be levied or assessed against the right-of-way owned by Union Pacific Railroad and operated by Dallas Garland and Northeastern Railroad. The property, known as Trinity Industrial Lead, extends from railroad milepost 0.0 near Terminal Junction, to railroad milepost 4.1, near Mockingbird Lane, a distance of 4.1 miles in the City of Dallas, Dallas County, Texas. The right-of-way is part of a line of railroad proposed for abandonment in Docket No STB AB-33 (Sub-No. 256X) and AB585 (Sub-No. 2X)

A map of the property depicting the right-of-way is attached.

The City of Dallas acknowledges that use of the right-of-way is subject to the user's continuing to meet its responsibilities described above and subject to possible future reconstruction and reactivation of the right-of-way for rail service. A copy of this statement is being served on the railroad(s) on the same date is it being served on the Board.

STB Docket No AB33 (sub No 256X) and AB 585 (Sub No 2X) September 14, 2007 Page 3

Thank you for your consideration If you have any questions please contact Paul Lehner, Director of Planning and Development for the Trinity River Corridor Project at 214-671-8983 or John Rogers, Esq, City Attorney's Office at 214-670-1275

Sincerely,

Jill A Jordan, PE
Assistant City Manager

Enclosure Map of Trinity Industrial Lead

Check for \$200 00 filing fee (Surface Transportation Board only)

c. Mayor Tom Leppert

Mary K Suhm, City Manager

Councilmember Dave Neumann, Chairman, Trinity River Committee Paul M Lehner, Director, Planning & Development, Trinity River Corridor John Rogers, Esq, City Attorney's Office

Dallas County Commissioners

Gary C Thomas, President & Executive Director, Dallas Area Rapid Transit Kathryn Nichols, National Parks Service

James Randall, Director of Transportation, Planning & Programming, TxDOT Colonel Christopher Martin, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

